

OFFICE OF THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION

NOTICE OF FUNDING AVAILABILITY

Scholarships for Opportunity and Results Act Third Party Charter Support Organizations

Request for Applications Release Date: Friday, April 22, 2022

The Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE) will issue a Request for Applications (RFA) for Scholarships for Opportunity and Results (SOAR) Act Third Party Charter Support Organizations grant funds. SOAR Act funds are available to District of Columbia (DC) nonprofit charter support organizations. The purpose of the funds is to increase the achievement and academic growth of DC public charter school students and to enhance the organizational capacity of charter local education agencies (LEAs) to operate as fiscally and operationally sound nonprofit organizations and schools.

Eligibility and Selection Criteria: Eligible applicants are DC-based nonprofit charter school support organizations that have a demonstrated history of success working with DC charter schools on similar projects. Applicants must use funds to support projects designed to have a direct and rapid impact on academic achievement and outcomes for charter school students overall or on the achievement of historically underperforming subgroups. Applicants are required to submit a letter of recommendation from a DC charter school with direct experience working with the organization, a letter of commitment from each of the two DC charter schools that the organization intends to serve, as well as a list of all schools and districts to which the organization has provided education-based services.

Applications are scored in the following selection criteria: (1) project data; (2) needs assessment; (3) project description; (4) theory of action; (5) OSSE's priority of meeting the needs of students with disabilities; (6) logic model; (7) an overall description of the project; and (8) the application's budget.

Length of Award: The duration of the award period is two years from the grant award date.

Available Funding for the Award: At least \$2,000,000 is available for awards through this RFA. OSSE will provide up to \$400,000.00 per "direct assistance" award and up to \$300,000.00 per "indirect assistance" award. Determinations regarding the number of competitive grant awards will be based on the quality and number of applications received and available funding. OSSE anticipates awarding approximately five to seven awards. Successful applicants may be awarded amounts less than requested. Awards are limited to one per organization. Grant funds shall only be used to support activities authorized by the relevant statutes and included in the applicant's submission.

Application Process: A review panel or panels will be convened to review, score, and rank each application for a competitive grant. The review panel(s) will be composed of external, neutral, qualified, professional individuals selected for their expertise, knowledge or related experiences. Each application will be scored against a rubric and applications will have multiple reviewers to

ensure accurate scoring. Upon completion of its review, the panel(s) shall make recommendations for awards based on the scoring rubric(s). OSSE will make all final award decisions. Applications must be submitted prior to 3 p.m. on June 6, 2022. OSSE expects to make awards by Aug. 1, 2022.

Pre-application webinars will be held on the following dates:

- Thursday, May 5, 2022, from 10-11 a.m.
- Tuesday, May 10, 2022, from 1-2 p.m.

To register for a webinar, visit attendee.gotowebinar.com/rt/535692382224714766.

Each interested organization must have at least one representative attend one of the above webinars in order to meet the attendance requirement for this grant. Webinar attendance is tracked electronically through registration and online attendance.

To receive more information on this grant, please contact:

Nicole Clements
Office of the State Superintendent of Education
1050 First St. NE, Fifth Floor, Washington, D.C. 20002
Email: Nicole.Clements@dc.gov

The RFA for this competitive grant program will be available on OSSE's website at osse.dc.gov/service/scholarships-opportunity-and-results-soar-act-grant. All applications will be submitted through the Enterprise Grants Management System (EGMS) at grants.osse.dc.gov.